

Mandela calls off peace meeting

JOHANNESBURG (R) — African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela has called off a meeting with Zulu chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi which had been arranged to try to halt the warfare raging in South Africa's Natal province. An ANC statement said it hoped the meeting, scheduled for Monday, would be held at a later date, but now was not the time for the warring factions to share a platform. "The atmosphere is not yet ideal for a joint rally in Natal," the ANC said in a statement released through the South Africa Press Association. Mandela would still visit Natal Monday and Tuesday to visit areas affected by the rambling battles between his allies in the United Democratic Front (UDF) anti-apartheid coalition and Buthelezi's Inkatha movement, the ANC said. Police say 37 people have died since Sunday in clashes between supporters of the UDF and Inkatha, but reports from other sources in the area say the death toll may be almost double that figure. The ANC decision to postpone the meeting, which would have culminated in a joint rally addressed by South Africa's two most powerful black leaders, was taken after Mandela held a lengthy meeting with Natal officials of the ANC.



Jordan Times

An independent political daily published by Jordan Times Foundation
جordan Times تأسست بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية (الرأي)

Volume 15 Number 4354

AMMAN SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1990, RAMADAN 5, 1410

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

U.S. senators due here next week

AMMAN (J.T.) — U.S. Senate minority leader Robert Dole and five other senators are scheduled to pay a one-day visit to Jordan next week, a source at the Arab Amman Chapter of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee said Friday. The source expected the senators to be received by His Majesty King Hussein and the discussion to cover the latest developments in the Middle East, and the recent adoption by the U.S. Senate of a resolution acknowledging Jerusalem as the "capital" of Israel.

Arab Maghreb Union appeals to Europe

TUNIS (R) — Five North African countries asked Western Europe Friday to give North African immigrants better protection and punish those responsible for a recent spate of racist attacks on them. A statement by Arab Maghreb Union foreign ministers said: "The ministers are deeply disturbed about this and ask the European countries where these attacks have been perpetrated to take the necessary measures to protect the rights, security and dignity of the North African community." The appeal was mainly directed at France. Racist attacks have received wide coverage in the French and North African press, especially after two North Africans were murdered in separate incidents in France earlier this month. Algerian Foreign Minister Sid Ahmad Ghazali told the two-day meeting the campaign against North Africans had reached an intolerable threshold.

Kuwaiti journalists elect officials

KUWAIT (AP) — The editor-in-chief of an English-language daily newspaper, the Kuwait Times, was elected Friday as chairman of the Kuwait Journalists Syndicate. Yousef Al Olayan succeeds Ahmad Behbehani, editor of the weekly Al Yaqza magazine. Behbehani retained membership on the seven-member board, elected last week, after an acrimonious campaign, by the syndicate's 400 members. Among the issues about which they disagreed was the relative ease with which newcomers were accepted as members. Four of the seven seats on the board went to four editors of daily newspapers who ran as a bloc with the avowed aim of purging the syndicate of so-called non-professionals, and upgrading the performance of the Kuwaiti press. They are also campaigning for lifting censorship imposed on the local press in July 1986 when the 50-member elected parliament was dissolved.

S. Arabia urges donations to Afghans

NICOSIA (R) — Saudi Arabia urged its citizens Friday to mark the Holy Month of Ramadan by donating money to rebels in Afghanistan. "The duty imposed by our Muslim religion calls on everyone of us to back our Mujahideen brethren," said Prince Salman Ben Abdul Aziz, governor of Riyadh. "The Afghan Muslim people are now facing attempts to isolate them from their creed and obliterate their Muslim identity, but they are determined to continue the struggle until they achieve victory, with God's will," he said in a statement carried by the Saudi Press Agency.

U.S. to ease computer exports to Soviet Union

WASHINGTON (R) — In a major policy switch, the Defense Department announced Friday it would no longer block the export of many U.S. computers to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, allowing the decision to be made solely by the Commerce Department. The Pentagon had previously jointly reviewed hundreds of such export requests along with the Commerce Department and the agencies had clashed publicly over whether technology involved might be used by the Soviet military.

Palestinians mark Land Day with rallies, protest marches

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Heavily reinforced army and police units broke up several demonstrations Friday as Palestinians and Israeli Arabs staged rallies and protest marches to commemorate "Land Day."

A general strike closed shops and schools throughout the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, in Arab Jerusalem and in Arab villages in Israel.

Land Day commemorates 1976 protests against Israeli confiscation of Arab land in the Galilee. Six Arabs were killed by Israeli police during the disturbances 14 years ago.

In a rare clash with Arabs inside Israel, police used tear-gas to disperse demonstrators after an hour of hit-and-run stone throwing by youths in the town of Taibet, reporters said from the scene. Israeli radio said two firebombs also were thrown.

One policeman was stabbed while arresting stone throwers and hospitalised in stable condition and six other police were injured by stones, the radio said. At least five Arabs were taken into custody.

About 10,000 Israeli Arabs attended the main rally in Arama, the village where two Land Day protesters were killed in

1976. A police helicopter hovered briefly over the crowd, but no police were deployed on the ground.

Before the four-hour rally, two people were injured when about 100 followers of the nationalist "Sons of the Village" waving Palestinian flags battled a group of communists with sticks.

Palestinians said soldiers shot dead Mohammad Al Salameh, 20, in Kafr Malek north of Jerusalem Thursday night.

The army placed the village, near Ramallah, under curfew. Troops confined 750,000 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip to their homes and barred West Bank residents from entering Jerusalem for traditional mass prayers at Al Aqsa Mosque on the first Friday of the holy Month of Ramadan.

Police removed Palestinian flags from several Israeli Arab villages, a sign of what some government officials say is an increasing identification of Israeli Arabs with the Palestinian nationalist cause.

Leaders of Israel's 650,000 Arab citizens appealed for a peaceful general strike and rallies to demand equal rights on Land Day.

But leaders of the 27-month-old Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip called for a day of violent protests.

"If I pay taxes and live in the state of Israel, there is no reason why I should not enjoy my rights," he said.

In the Arab town of Kafr Kam-

nah, Abu Wahab Daroushe, an Arab member of Israel's parliament, read a message from Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to several thousand people at an annual memorial service for a teenager killed in 1976.

Arafat's message, sent by facsimile from Europe, praised Israeli Arabs "for igniting the first spark in 1976, which led to the great fire of the uprising." It also said Israeli who support negotiations with Palestinians were "heroic, democratic Jews willing to make the peace of the courageous, the brave."

Curfews were also in force in several West Bank refugee camps and the villages of Aroub and Bani Naim in the Hebron area, the army said.

Police removed Palestinian flags from several Israeli Arab villages, a sign of what some government officials say is an increasing identification of Israeli Arabs with the Palestinian nationalist cause.

But Mohammed Issawi, an Israeli Arab teacher interviewed on army radio, said: "The war is over the basic things... not as the media presents it as a move towards extremism, nationalism and those sorts of things. We simply want to feel equal."

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Iraq says it bought electrical capacitors not nuclear device

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq, adding detail to denials that it tried to buy triggers for nuclear weapons, says U.S.-made electrical components confiscated in Britain could have been used for many other purposes.

"It is easy to invent a link between the normal use of any highly advanced electronic or mechanical component and military purposes," an official source at the Ministry of Industry and Military Industrialisation told the Iraqi News Agency (INA).

"Iraq did not violate any law of any other country. Iraq has the full right of technology transfer, just as other world countries do," the source said.

The material which British authorities claimed to have discovered at London airport as nuclear triggers were merely electrical capacitors used for many industrial, scientific and engineering purposes and in the fields of electro-optics, fast electric discharge and plasma focusing systems.

A Lebanese engineer, a man with dual British-Iraqi citizenship and a French woman appeared in a British court Thursday charged with attempting to smuggle to Iraq 40 trigger devices for nuclear weapons. An employee at the Iraqi Airways office in London was deported.

"Iraq which has signed the

non-proliferation Treaty, maintains its full rights to the transfer of technology from anywhere," he was told by Deputy Foreign Minister Nizar Hammour.

But in London, the Foreign Office denied any British diplomat was summoned to the Iraqi Foreign Ministry Thursday.

An Iraqi foreign ministry spokesman also said in a statement carried by the Iraqi News Agency that Iraq has the right to take "measures" based on the principle of reciprocity. It did not elaborate.

In Washington, the State Department called in Iraq's ambassador Thursday and registered concern that Baghdad was trying to circumvent U.S. restrictions on nuclear technology shipments.

"We do not foresee a near-time Iraqi nuclear capability," spokesman Richard Boucher said. "However, we remain concerned about the danger..."

Richard McCormack, the undersecretary for economic affairs, met with Ambassador Mohamad Al Mashat and "expressed our deep concern over Iraq's attempt to circumvent controls" over military items, a U.S. official said.

In an indictment unveiled Thursday, five people and two

(Continued on page 3)

Herzog criticises rabbi, urges electoral reforms

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli President Chaim Herzog, in a rare intervention in politics, criticised statements by an ultra-orthodox rabbi who is pivotal to forming the next government and called for urgent electoral reform.

Rabbis, exploiting their sudden political leverage, reaped an unexpected bonanza when parliament early Friday approved a budget allocating three times more money to religious institutions than in 1989.

"In the light of present political events, I once again publicly express my opinion on the urgent need for change in the electoral system," Herzog said in his monthly radio talk.

Four religious parties, with 18 of the Knesset's 120 seats, hold the balance of power between Israel's two main parties struggling to form a government.

Herzog, a former general and diplomat, criticised a diatribe this week by 96-year-old rabbi Eliezer Schach, spiritual mentor of the

Shas and Degel Hatorah parties, against the secular Israeli left and the Kibbutz collective settlements.

Without naming Schach, he spoke of a "tendency to besmirch through generalisation entire groups" and said Israel did not realise how much it owed to the Kibbutzim.

Schach's remarks were widely argued as a blow to efforts by Labour Party leader Shimon Peres for a coalition to launch the first-ever peace talks with the Palestinians.

Parliament voted a record \$111 million for ultra-orthodox school and welfare institutions. (see page 6). The amount surpassed the \$100 million squeezed into the budget at the last minute to build houses for a flood of Soviet immigrants due in Israel this year.

Angry leftist parliamentarians said the price paid for the support of religious parties was tantamount to bribery.

In a poll published in the daily Maariv Friday, 53 per cent of

Israelis questioned said the intervention of rabbis in politics was illegitimate.

"What is the point of putting price limits on bread, sugar and oil if there is no limit to the price of political bribery? How do we clean the shame?" said Yair Tsabar, head of the leftist Mapam party.

Several parliamentarians argued the increase would jeopardise essential welfare programmes as Israelis grappled to absorb an influx of immigrants and slash an 8.9 per cent unemployment rate.

Long-bearded rabbis in black cloaks have become central figures in Israel's political arena since the collapse of a 15-month coalition between the rightist Likud and more dovish Labour Party over a U.S. peace proposal.

The Likud party of caretaker Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir obtained the extra funds for religious institutions thanks to its majority in the parliament finance committee.

His remark helped cause a political crisis in Israel that led to the fall of the government of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Successive U.S. administrations had for years turned a blind eye to the densely populated Jewish suburbs that have sprung up in Arab Jerusalem.

Bush was pressed by American Jewish leaders to reverse himself, but refused. The most he would say was that "Jews and others have the right to live there in the context of a negotiated settlement."

On the United Nations, Assistant Secretary of State John Bolton told a Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee that the United States was working hard through diplomatic channels to reverse the "Zionism equals racism" resolution.

"We believe that there is strong opposition to the resolution by a large and growing number of U.N. member countries. With this in mind, we are taking action and will intensify our efforts during the 1990 session of the General Assembly," Bolton said.

Bush, speaking to reporters at a picture-taking session shortly after Fitzwater announced the

Badran reaffirms Jordan's commitment to Palestinians

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan and Palestine represent the most vital part of Arab resistance against Zionist expansionism and any support extended to the 27-month-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza is support extended to Jordan and vice-versa, Prime Minister Mudar Badran said Friday.

Addressing a gathering at the Palace of Culture on the occasion of Land Day, the prime minister said that the "dangerous situation threatening us all and of the which His Majesty King Hussein has warned, in the flow of thousands of Soviet Jews to Palestine."

Following are major excerpts from the prime minister's speech:

"We meet today to mark a dear occasion, which is Land Day, and we all agree that all our lives have been committed to the land and in defence

of its rightful owners. Therefore, our stand on this occasion is not a stand based on a particular event, but a stand with a long march that the Palestinian Arab people have started and are continuing since the first (Israeli) aggression on their land and identity and national belonging until this moment and until victory of return to their soil is achieved."

"The reality which nobody can refute is that the Palestinian intifada has come to represent the Palestinian determination to refuse the status quo and it affirms the legitimate hopes and aspirations of the Palestinian people since it is a defence of the Palestinian national identity in governing their own soil and establishing their own independent state under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Supporting the intifada gains is of utmost significance since it constitutes the practical manifestations of our sincere desire to safeguard the identity of the Palestini-

(Continued on page 3)

Perez de Cuellar winds up visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar was Friday winding up a private visit to Jordan during which he was received by His Majesty King Hussein.

Informal sources said the U.N. chief, who is due to begin a visit to Europe this week, was expected to leave Friday or early Saturday.

In his meeting with the U.N. chief at Aqaba Wednesday, King Hussein reviewed with him the latest developments on the international scene, the Jordan News Agency, Petra said.

Perez de Cuellar thanked King Hussein for the invitation extended to him to visit Jordan and praised the democratic march which Jordan is currently pursuing and noted the achievements Jordan has made, it said.

CAEU urges Kuwait to stay, pledges to adopt its proposals

does for the past four years and now owes more than \$1.5 million.

The council, set up in 1964 to promote economic union, is an Arab League institution but participation is optional for league members.

Urging the Kuwaiti government to reconsider its decision, the statement said the CAEU General Secretariat "finds the circumstances through which collective Arab action, in general and economic action in particular, warrant more understanding and solidarity as a means of confronting dangers facing the Arab World, particularly Soviet Jewish immigration to Palestine and the dangers threatening some Arab countries."

The statement said that the CAEU General Secretariat appreciates Kuwait's keen interest in joint Arab action and its aspiration that this action be a model for inter-Arab relations

and all Kuwait's proposals to the council would be implemented.

"The CAEU will have a new organisational structure and will cut the salaries of the employees up to 25 per cent, and reduce about 25 per cent of its staff, review its holdings, define a budget ceiling of \$1,150,000 from \$3,500,000."

This will reduce Kuwait's contribution to 23.75 per cent instead of about \$218,000 annually instead of \$800,000."

The Arab World, with its national institutions, "is witnessing a restructuring period which will lead to Arab solidarity," it said. "The effective Egyptian participation in these institutions, which was achieved recently, has put them in position to start once again with a new spirit... these aspects as a whole are a strong motive for Kuwait to reverse its decision," it said.

Bush sends appeal to Gorbachev over Lithuania

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President George Bush has sent Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev a personal message urging a peaceful resolution of the dispute between Moscow and Lithuania, the White House said Friday.

Bush's message expressed U.S. support for the aspirations of the Lithuanian people for self-determination and "expressed our emphatic view that the resolution of this conflict lies in dialogue," spokesman Martin Fitzwater said.

Fitzwater said Bush sent the message late Thursday after receiving a report from Massachusetts Democratic Senator Edward Kennedy on his meeting with Gorbachev in Moscow this week.

The official TASS news agency said U.S. Charge d'Affaires John Joyce delivered the letter to Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze on Friday.

"The president's message to President Gorbachev simply restated our position as stated many times," Fitzwater said.

Bush, speaking to reporters at a picture-taking session shortly after Fitzwater announced the

It is all-out war in E. Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — A ceasefire between rival Christian groups collapsed Friday as heavy fighting resumed between troops of renegade General Michel Aoun and warlord Samir Geagea's militiamen for control of Lebanon's Christian enclave.

"The ceasefire has collapsed. It's past history," said a police spokesman. "It's all-out war again."

West must make concessions on Lebanon hostages — Hezbollah

BEIRUT (R) — The leader of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah group said Friday Western states should make concessions to Tehran and its Lebanese allies to secure the release of 17 Western hostages held in Lebanon.

Sheikh Soufi Toufaii, general secretary of Hezbollah (Party of God), told Reuters in an interview: "The basic of the hostage issue is the demands of the captives. The issue should be discussed at that level in order to be solved from its roots."

Eight Americans and three Britons are among those believed held in Lebanon by Muslim militants loyal to Iran. The hostage-takers have demanded the release of prisoners in Israel, Kuwait and other states.

Toufaii, speaking at his

heavily-guarded house in Beirut's Syrian-policed southern suburbs, said: "Iran, with its spiritual and cultural presence in Lebanon, can use its influence to solve the problem of some hostages."

But he added: "Why should Iran do a favour to America or Europe or solve a problem for this state or that while the other states are not willing to solve any of Iran's problems?"

"He who wants something from Iran should pay the price." Toufaii's remarks followed comments by other pro-Iranian

leaders and statements by hostage-takers pouring cold water on hopes that the hostages will be freed soon.

An Iranian newspaper sparked optimism about the hostages last month by calling for their unconditional release, saying the West was using the issue to tarnish the image of Muslims.

Iranian President Ali Akbar Rafsanjani said on March 7 that the issue was moving towards a solution. An Iranian Foreign Ministry official said last week that the captives could be freed by January.

Hezbollah is widely thought to be an umbrella organisation that includes kidnap groups, though it denies involvement in the abductions.

to implement a Security Council resolution approved in 1987.

Resolution 598 calls for a ceasefire and withdrawal to the border by the warring armies; urges the exchange of prisoners of war; seeks a negotiated settlement of the war and would set up a panel to apportion blame for the conflict.

Iraq is stressing that since active hostilities have ceased, all prisoners of war should be exchanged next, according to the terms of the Geneva conventions of 1949 governing the treatment of POWs.

"The hostages are held by security groups that have nothing to do with Hezbollah or its leadership," Toufaii said. "We only hope this issue ends peacefully."

Toufaii, former commander of Hezbollah's military arm, the Islamic resistance, said the hostage issue was not linked to the fate of three Israeli soldiers captured by the group.

"The issue of the Israeli captives has nothing to do with the hostage issue... there are no talks whatsoever with Israel about its captives," he said.

Iraq last year kidnapped Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid, a leading Hezbollah cleric, and offered to swap him and other Shi'ite Muslim prisoners for the hostages and the Israeli soldiers.

U.K., France condemn settlements in E. Jerusalem

NEW YORK (R) — Iraq has built for the first time launchers for missiles which could reach as far as Tel Aviv, the New York Times reported Friday.

Citing a classified Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) report prepared early this month, the newspaper said the missile launchers have provoked concern among senior Bush administration officials.

Canada as well as Finland condemned the settlements as contrary to international law under the fourth Geneva Convention but neither nation specifically mentioned East Jerusalem.

Four days of debate have been held since March 15 on settlements in Israeli-occupied territories because of Arab fears that new Soviet emigration policies could result in as many as 100,000 Jews reaching Israel in 1990.

A number of proposals for resolutions are circulating since the Soviet Union requested the meeting but no definitive text has emerged. Arab nations want the settlements declared illegal and demand that all states, particularly the United States, stop providing Israel with aid that could be used to settle Jews in the territories.

In contrast, U.S. proposals for a resolution regret Israeli policy but do not declare settlements illegal.

French Ambassador Pierre-Louis Blanc criticised recent Israeli appeals for increased Jewish settlements in the territories, saying: "Such declarations can in no way create the climate of confidence that is essential for any progress towards a peaceful solution of the Israeli-Arab conflict."

In his report released this week, Perez de Cuellar said that during the past six months there was relative calm along the ceasefire lines and a significant decline in the number of major truce violations.

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U.S. intelligence experts say they believe the launchers are for Iraq's Al-Husayn surface-to-surface missile, a 640-kilometre version of the Soviet-designed Scud missiles which Iraq used against Iran in the eight-year Gulf war.

According to the report, the launchers were the first stationary ones — which experts say are more accurate — Iraq

has built within range of Tel Aviv.

"If true, we would be very concerned. We are concerned about the destabilising effects of the spread of ballistic missiles and missile technology, especially in areas of tension," the New York Times quoted a U.S. spokesman Roman Popaduk as saying.

An unidentified senior administration official said Iraqi officials had signalled to foreign diplomats the launchers would be used to retaliate against an Israeli pre-emptive attack against Iraqi military installations, the New York Times reported.

A spokesman for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency said the CIA does not comment on such reports as a matter of policy.

Additionally, Iraq has a well-advanced nuclear weapons programme and is believed to have missiles that can hurl warheads thousands of miles, according to expert congressional testimony little noticed until a detonator smuggling case spotlighted the issue.

Rear Admiral Thomas Brooks, director of U.S. Naval Intelligence, also said Iraq probably has biological as well as chemical weapons and that China was eagerly trying to sell short and medium-range missiles in the Middle East.

In contrast, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher offered a more reassuring analysis Thursday, saying:

"We do not foresee a near-term Iraqi nuclear weapons capability. However, we remain concerned about the danger that Iraq may seek to develop a nuclear weapons option in the future."

On China, Brooks gave little credence to Peking's assurances to the Bush administration not to sell medium-range missiles to Middle Eastern countries.

New Iraqi launchers reportedly extend missile range to Israel

thousands of miles away."

Brooks said: "Several Third World countries, including Iraq and North Korea, have advanced nuclear weapon development programmes... Iran, with an eye towards Iraq's well-advanced programme, is seeking its own nuclear weapons capability."

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U.N. extends mandate of Gulf observer group

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The Security Council has voted to keep a U.N. military observer force in Iran and Iraq while negotiators press both sides to resume direct talks aimed at reaching a permanent peace agreement.

The 15-member Council voted unanimously to extend the mandate for the 400-member U.N. Gulf military observer group until Sept. 30.

In a report to the Security Council recommending the extension, Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar also urged both nations to accept his proposal for

a two-month session of direct talks.

U.N. negotiators have given an agenda for another round of talks to representatives of Iran and Iraq, who have forwarded the proposals to officials in Baghdad and Tehran.

Iran-Iraq peace talks began in Geneva in August 1988, but quickly bogged down. An uneasy truce prevails on the 563-kilometre war front, with the warring armies separated by U.N. military observers.

The measure approved Thursday also called for Iran and Iraq

Ethiopia confirms Jewish emigration to Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — Ethiopia has confirmed for the first time that it has allowed hundreds of black Jews to emigrate to Israel and is discussing direct flights to the Jewish state.

Ethiopian presidential adviser Kesse Kebede made the disclosure at a press briefing during a visit to Israel and in an interview with Israel Radio broadcast Friday.

He said Ethiopia had agreed to facilitate "the reunification of these families in Israel and elsewhere... on humanitarian grounds."

Kebede denied U.S. media reports that Israel had supplied Ethiopia with cluster bombs but referred indirectly to military cooperation by saying they "share the geostrategic relationship of keeping the Red Sea a non-Arab sea... to ensure both countries continued passage through its shipping lanes."

By 1986, 15,000 Ethiopian

Jews were living in Israel.

Earlier this year a spokesman for the quasi-governmental Jewish Agency, which helps immigrants, said about 100 Ethiopians were reaching Israel each month.

Kebede spoke of hundreds of emigrants but said he would not give exact numbers because it could harm the parties involved.

The black Jews are widely known as Falashas, although they regard the Ethiopian term, which means migrants or wanderers, as offensive.

Israel and Ethiopia renewed diplomatic relations last year and Kebede said his country would soon open an embassy.

"I don't know if the embassy will be in Jerusalem. We are prepared to send an ambassador to Israel soon," he told Israel Radio, speaking fluent Hebrew. He studied at the Hebrew University 25 years ago and learned the language then.

In the report released this week, Perez de Cuellar said that during the past six months there was relative calm along the ceasefire lines and a significant decline in the number of major truce violations.

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"We do not foresee a near-term Iraqi nuclear weapons capability. However, we remain concerned about the danger that Iraq may seek to develop a nuclear weapons option in the future."

On China, Brooks gave little credence to Peking's assurances to the Bush administration not to sell medium-range missiles to Middle Eastern countries.



A technician demonstrates one of the techniques used at the Jordan Centre for Veterinary Vaccine (JCVV) to participants in a training course. (Right) Some of the most modern equipment are used in preparing vaccines at the centre

Animal vaccine industry enters new era

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Jordanian pharmaceutical industry is seen as one of the most successful in the Arab World according to many experts, and a new addition to it is the Jordan Centre for Veterinary Vaccine (JCVV), which has now started exporting vaccines to Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates.

According to the centre's deputy-director, Dr. Emile Msanat, contacts are underway with vaccine importers in Saudi Arabia on possible export deals.

Although the JCVV is new

and there are many similar centres in the Middle East, Msanat believes "that the qualified staff and modern equipment will allow the JCVV to compete with other centres in the Arab World." He described JCVV exports to Bahrain and the UAE as a major step. He did not provide any figures.

The JCVV, which was established in 1988 with assistance from the West German government agency GTZ, is presently producing 80 million doses of certain types of vaccines for local and export markets.

"We hope to expand, to

produce 170 million doses of which only half will be required in Jordan," Dr. Mukhlis Ammar told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, in a recent interview.

An important goal of the centre is to reduce the country's dependence on imported vaccines which are very costly. The Ministry of Agriculture and the private sector used to spend JD 300,000 for the import to certain types of vaccines and now the JCVV is offering import substitutes.

The project is saving the country JD 300,000 in hard currency because they used to import these vaccines from Europe before the centre was

established," Msanat told reporters during a recent press tour of the centre located 12 kilometres north of Amman in a forested, isolated area.

"There are other vaccines which the ministry still imports but we hope to cover these needs in the future," he added.

The centre, which is part of the five-year development plan as well as a technical cooperation programme between Jordan and West Germany, produces sheep-pox, goat-pox, brucella, anthrax and New Castle disease vaccines.

Msanat explained that vaccine production was profitable for the country since the industry had a very high-profit margin — 75 per cent.

In a move to diversify its production, the centre, with the assistance of two German experts, has started experimenting with biologicals. "We want to go to producing biologicals which are now imported. We are awaiting the Ministry of Agriculture's approval," Msanat said. The centre is also waiting for approval from the ministry to put on the market 40 million doses of poultry vaccine.

GTZ provides two types of assistance to the centre; one is financial by supplying equipment and the other is technical. Two qualified German consultants are working at the centre to supervise production and train local staff. GTZ has given scholarship for training staff here and abroad.

"The functions of this centre are to produce vaccines to meet local needs as well as a surplus for export, and to train staff and others on how to use the vaccine properly," Dr. George Weiland, project manager at the centre, told the Jordan Times.

Both Alruin Auer van Meleck, a senior teaching technician, and Weiland assist in the training seminars that are held for the staff, employees from concerned ministries and those involved in related fields.

national development.

He said the ministry had provided all the necessary support to enable women to be more closely involved in the development process at various levels.

The ministry had honoured the Palestinian women for their role in countering the occupation authorities, the dedicated working women and the women who excelled in areas like scientific research and higher studies, he said.

He said that this year's celebration was especially in honour of women who had made an effort to become literate.

At the end of the celebration, Queen Noor presented shields to several women who have graduated from literacy education classes.

Meat, vegetables sufficient for Ramadan — Abdul Huda

ZARQA (Petra) — Minister of Supply Nabil Abdul Huda has reaffirmed his ministry's resolve to provide sufficient quantities of fresh imported Bulgarian meat,

as Saturday and said it would be sold to consumers at the cost price, which is JD 1,800 per kilo. Abdul Huda, who was speaking at a meeting held at the Zarqa governor's office, said that the ministry would import an additional plane load of beef in a bid to meet the needs of the local markets.

He pointed out to the rise in the prices of vegetables and fruit and said that there was a real shortage of such foodstuffs in the market.

However, he noted, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company have instructed the tomato paste factories in Arida and Ghor Al Safi to stop producing tomato paste in order to meet the local demand for fresh tomatoes.

The governor reviewed various supply issues with the minister and stressed the need for intensifying control over importers and retailers.

Officials pledge to donate corneas to the Eye Bank

AMMAN (Petra) — Lower House of Parliament Speaker Suleiman Arar Thursday received a delegation representing the Jordanian Friends of Eye Bank Society, who briefed him on the society's objectives and activities.

The delegation said that a total of 580 cornea transplant had so far been performed in Jordan.

Arar said he would donate his corneas to the Eye Bank, thus following in the footsteps of His Majesty King Hussein who announced earlier this year that he would donate his corneas to the bank.

Arar also promised to send a circular to House members urging them to donate their corneas.

Several deputies, including Yousef Al Adhem, Fuad Al Khleifat, Jamal Al Kreisha, Nayef Abu Tayeh and Abdulla Al Zureiqat have already voiced their willingness to donate their corneas to the bank.

Also donating their corneas are Nayef Al Muheisen from the Petra News Agency, and Rima Al Dabbas and Randa Taji from the Parliament's General Secretariat.

Jordan to participate in IPU conference

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian parliamentary delegation led by Lower House of Parliament Speaker Suleiman Arar will leave for Nicosia Saturday to take part in an International Parliamentary Union (IPU) conference.

Arar will deliver a speech at the conference which starts Monday, outlining the latest developments in the Arab and international arenas, the Palestinian uprising and the immigration of the Soviet Jews.

Jordan has requested the issue of the Soviet Jewish immigration be added to the agenda of the conference as an additional, urgent issue.

The six-day conference is scheduled to discuss a number of political and economic issues.

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WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition of plastic artists Arij Al Hamed and Ibrahim Al Nahash at the Housing Bank Complex.
- ★ Art exhibition by seven Iraqi artists at Abdil Hamied Shoman Foundation (10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.)
- ★ Art exhibition entitled "Spanish contemporary engravings" at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by Ahmad Nawash at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Arabic children's play entitled "Al Shabab" (the witness) at the Royal Cultural Centre — 4:00 p.m.

THEATRE

Jordan Times
Tel. 667171

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.
Established 1975

جordan Times جورنال عربى يومى مستقل باللغة الإنجليزية من ناشر الصحافة العربية

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Land Day — a resounding pledge

THE SYMBOLISM of Land Day commemorated Friday by Palestinians everywhere surpasses its original and immediate objective of protesting Israeli expropriation of Arab lands within the Jewish state.

As this national protest has spread in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and become the centerpiece for the crystallization of a Palestinian sense of nationalism and yearning for statehood, the significance of the day has also become, since its initial stage, the epitome of Palestinian cohesion and consolidation of efforts.

Moreover, the unity shown in celebrating this occasion has become a major landmark and a significant milestone on the way to statehood.

No wonder, therefore, that the Palestinians have remembered Land Day, this time too, with renewed determination and vigour maintaining its rightful course.

The extensive participation in Friday's commemoration of Land Day has evidently bolstered the determination of the Palestinian people everywhere to continue to wage their struggle for liberty and self-determination despite all the formidable obstacles put in their path.

The nervousness with which the Israeli authorities have anticipated this Palestinian occasion demonstrates how seriously Israel views Land Day.

For a long time the Israeli establishment had viewed the Palestinians as people with a superficial attachment to their lands; they thought of them as wandering bedouins who will easily forsake their territories.

If nothing else, Land Day has come to demonstrate beyond a shadow of doubt that the Palestinians' roots in their homeland are so deep and profound that decades of occupation and oppression have not succeeded in shaking their commitment to their land and country.

As Israel is busy today forming another government on the ashes of the collapsed coalition government, and the Israeli people are deeply divided on how to deal with the Palestinians, the celebration of Land Day must have come as an additional grim reminder to those Israelis who still entertain the false hope of dislodging the Palestinians from their ancestral land, that the Palestinians are there to stay and that there is no way that Israel might succeed in expropriating their land. The Arab people as well as all freedom-loving peoples of the world therefore salute the Palestinians on this occasion for their answering will to cling to their lands and homeland come what may.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

ALL JORDANIAN Arabic dailies Friday discuss Land Day, an annual anniversary in which the Arab people of Jordan and other parts of the Arab World show solidarity with the Palestinian people who are fighting for their land and their freedom. The Zionist conspiracy is directed not only against the Palestinians but also against Jordan in the first place and against the Arab Nation in general, and for this reason we feel that all of us are committed to support the Palestinian struggle for freedom, Al Ra'i Arabic paper said Friday. The stronger the Jordanian-Palestinian unity is, the stronger will be the resistance to the enemy's conspiracies against us, the paper added. It said that Jordanians and Palestinians should realize that they together face a great conspiracy and pressure designed to weaken their unity and their steadfastness and eventually weaken the intifada. The stronger the Jordanian-Palestinian unity the more powerful the uprising will be and the stronger will be the resistance of the oppressed Palestinian people, the paper noted. It said that solidarity on Land Day means enhancing the identity of the Palestinian people and their resistance to oppression and joint struggle for freedom. Land Day, the paper added, is the day of Jordan and Palestine together and it is of a more significant meaning for the two peoples this year especially in the light of the Jewish immigration into Palestine.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily launches a strong attack on the Soviet Union and the United States for colluding against the Arab Nation and jointly lying to the world in general and the Arab Nation in particular about their secret agreement concerning the Jewish emigration. Tareq Masarweh says that as the Arabs follow U.N. Security Council discussions about this emigration, they feel surprised about the U.S.-Soviet lies. Both Washington and Moscow realize that the emigration is causing harm to the rights of the Palestinians and both are in agreement that all of the occupied Arab territories should be called "land of Israel". The writer says that the two superpowers realize that Israel does not want to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories and yet neither one dares to denounce such Zionist plans. Washington and Moscow both realize that the Israelis are absorbing the new immigrants in the occupied Arab territories, and yet both choose to lie. Washington and Moscow agreed at their Helsinki summit to allow the Jews to emigrate, with Moscow succumbing to American pressure, and at the same time failing to defend the Palestinian people's rights, the writer says. What about the Palestinian people's rights in their homeland and what about repatriation? he asks. If the Jews have the right to return to what is called Israel land, shouldn't the Palestinians have the same right and return to the land from which they have been turned out? asks Masarweh. He says that the Arabs regret Moscow's stand and do not consider the Soviet Union as an ally or a friend; and they are just awaiting Moscow to declare that openly.

Sawt Al Shabab daily attacked the Zionist lobby in the United States which, it says, is trying to stifle all new American administration's policies with regard to the Middle East. The paper said that world Zionism seems to have realized that the Bush administration was following a course of action different from those followed by previous administrations and for this reason it is now exercising pressure on Washington.

View from Amman

'Marxism: End of ideology?' — Part III

By Kamel S. Abu Jaber

FUTURE historians will, no doubt, marvel at the dismantling of the communist empire that took place in the twentieth century. One American intellectual of Arab origin recently called it an ethical as well as a moral collapse of an entire system of values that failed to prove itself in practice. The judgment is not only too harsh and unjust but inaccurate as well. For what collapsed was not the humanist ideals of Marxism but the inhuman practice of the communist state that turned itself into a repressive and dictatorial system.

Whatever way one may interpret the events currently taking place in the communist world, they remain of vast historical significance. Several reasons account for this: chief among them is that — while the communist regime replaced the empire of the tsars, Russian/Soviet policy within and without did not significant-

ly change. Not until the advent of Michail Gorbachev did the state begin to look at its people as citizens rather than subjects, thinking or potentially thinking human beings rather than objects to be manipulated from above. The changes that Gorbachev initiated in the realm of foreign policy are numerous though one feature stands out as most significant: namely, the abandonment of the tsarist dream of further expansion. A dream that the Communist state later insisted in the name of Communism.

It took courage not ethical or moral courage to admit mistakes. That is the second reason why the events in the "East" are so significant historically. Never before in the history of man did an empire admit it was mistaken in its approach to life. Never before did an empire act upon that realisation and, willingly and

from within, begin to divest itself of the mistakes of the past and peacefully allow itself to be dismantled.

Where will the process lead, no one knows. That is another feature rendering the whole process unique. Why didn't Mr. Gorbachev prepare a plan for himself? Why does there seem to be no blue print for what is taking place? Not only for what was once called the Soviet empire, but for the very Soviet Union itself? Why does the revolution from above seem to be overtaken from below? Why did not the "new thinking" provide for alternatives? A looser federation? A confederation? Complete independence for the satellites as well as the republics within the union?

That something needed to be done was already obvious at least three decades ago when Nikita Khrushchev attacked Stalin and later introduced the

concept of "peaceful coexistence" with the capitalist world. In retrospect it is fair to say that what Mr. Gorbachev is doing is no more than an elaboration of Khrushchev's reforms. For, peaceful coexistence then and now is a coin that has two faces: internally that Communist ideology is no more than any other ideology found in that particular society and therefore has to compete peacefully to gain support. That Communism has no longer a monopoly on the truth as was previously emphasised and, essentially like all other great systems of thought may even splinter into different interpretations of the same truth. Externally, peaceful coexistence means that the hated capitalist road or any other system of thought has the right to exist, and that henceforth violent struggle can, indeed, must be avoided.

Mr. Gorbachev took office

all is well within and that there is no need to borrow or learn from abroad. Like most ultra-conservatives anywhere in the world, they exist in a half real world: between fear and freedom. They want the change but they do not want to change. The Westerners argue that things cannot change unless man himself, from within, changes first. In his speech addressing the twenty-seventh conference of the Communist Party in 1986, Mr. Gorbachev remarked, "any attempt to convert the theory to a collection of rigid blue prints and prescriptions that are good for all the circumstances of life and everywhere, contradicts the spirit and essence... Marx and Engels scoffed at the simplistic memorisation and repetition of formulas which of necessity changed by the objective political and economic situation of the changing times..."

South Yemen waits for unity

By Liesl Graz

THE WALLS of Aden are plastered with portraits of the four "chief martyrs" killed, along with 10,000 other people, in ten murderous days of civil war in 1986. The present South Yemeni leaders, Ali Salim Al Bayd and Haider Abu Bakr Al Attas, never had that honour; four dead heroes were better than the risk of a personality cult in those highly unstable years. Another mustachioed face is appearing, that of North Yemen's president, Colonel Ali Abdullah Saleh, former enemy and now probably the most popular man in what is still the Popular Democratic Republic of Yemen. For 20 years, almost every time that Yemenis talked about unity, the result was bloodshed; scepticism was understandably rife after the latest spate of declarations in November 1989.

Three months later, even the sceptics are coming to think that this time the Yemenis might bring it off. No one on either side has ever dared contest the basic idea. The ideal of "Yemen" as such has endured through centuries of fragmentation; the last really unified state was ruled over by Queen Alia almost a millennium ago. Ever since the independence of the South in 1967, both sides talked about unity — on the condition that it could force the other into its own image. Marxism never sat easy on South Yemen, the only Arab state that formally declared itself to be Marxist-Leninist, but in the North the transition from medieval imamate to 20th-century republic was hardly less violent.

Today, the South badly needs unification, for both economic and ideological reasons. It is ready to accept what is practically absorption with very few cavils. Last autumn, before the border with the North was opened, the economy had effectively broken down; farmers refused to deliver food for the miserable prices they could get, for weeks the only food available in Aden market was potatoes, bread and onions. The government's coffers were empty.

Soviets pull out

Economic misery apart, the changes in Eastern Europe have orphaned South Yemen, robbed it of its ideological bearings, taken away any reason it had for remaining different. Czech and East German advisers are leaving in droves. The Soviets, who have been disengaging themselves since the 1986 upheaval, now have fewer military advisers in the South than in the North. The able foreign minister, Mr. Abdul Aziz Al Dal, insists there are no Soviet bases in South Yemen, not even on the island of Socotra, and that whatever fueling or landing facilities may exist are available to all comers. HMS Minerva called into Aden in February, the first British warship (minesweepers returning from the Gulf accepted) to approach Steamer Point since the independence in 1967. "Imperialist Britain" leap to "friendly country" overnight last year, when the British disaster unit was first on the spot with relief for the flooded Hadramaut. Even the aggressive tone towards America has been dampened slightly, although official Aden finds it difficult to understand why the United States will refuse diplomatic contact. The old line of South Yemen as a "terrorist"

sentiment and new Islamic militancy are in the ascendant. Southerners claim, rightly, that they have more sense of discipline and are better at respecting rules and regulations; they like things to be orderly. Predating and notwithstanding two decades of Communist bureaucracy, justice is seen to be more fairly dispensed, with a minimum of corruption, judges and lawyers are better trained. All those are things that the Adenis don't like the idea of losing.

Civil liberties

Perestroika oblige, Aden is rapidly outstripping Sana'a in granting civil liberties; political parties are being organised and political prisoners have been freed. The mukhabarat or secret police, once a Stasi clone supervised by East Germans, is scheduled to be disbanded by the end of March; nothing similar has been mentioned in Sana'a, where the mentors are mostly Iraqi. The most important question remains largely unspoken: will Saudi Arabia, the largest regional power, let it happen? The Saudis issued a bland official statement saying they welcome any arrangements leading to peace and King Fahd told Ali Abdullah Saleh in February that he backs unity plans "totally and unconditionally." Still, in Aden as in Sana'a, nagging doubt remains whether the Saudis would be really happy with a unified state of over 11

million Yemenis, traditionally scrappy fighters, with an elected parliament that has considerable say over the running of the country, and pumping enough oil to give it some financial independence. The Saudis particularly do not like the idea of a united Yemen on its south-western flank allied, within the Arab Cooperation Council, to Iraq on the north-east. The traditional Saudi practice of subsidising tribal leaders in the Yemeni far north had reportedly been extended to offering Saudi citizenship with all its perks to South Yemenis who might be tempted to think twice about unification.

Civil liberties

To forestall trouble, it now looks as though the unification process will be speeded up even though details may not all be worked out beforehand. On March 3, immediate mergers of the postal systems, radio and television services, the airlines and the central banks, were announced. For the North, the proclamation will be a vindication of decades of rhetoric; Colonel Ali Abdullah Saleh, who has already broken all records for longevity in the presidential office, sees it as his chance to go down in history as the worthy successor to the Queen of Sheba. For the South, unification presents an honourable — and life-preserving — way out of a hopeless political and economic dilemma — Middle East International, London.

Bush seeks flexibility in allocating U.S. aid

By William Scally
Reuter

WASHINGTON — With new democracies steadily emerging in Eastern Europe and Latin America, U.S. President George Bush has a problem — how to help a growing list of worthy claimants at a time of extreme budget pressure.

His administration believes Congress should give it more flexibility in managing foreign aid by abandoning the practice of setting specific amounts of aid for certain countries.

In frequent trips to Congress, Secretary of State James Baker and other officials have argued the need to cut aid to all current recipients to release funds for the new democracies.

"We cannot conduct the foreign policy of the United States in a manner we consider in the national interest unless you have flexibility in administering foreign assistance," Baker said.

He complained that in the current year, 82 per cent of economic aid and 92 per cent of financing for foreign military sales were earmarked for specific countries or regions.

A recent proposal by Senate minority leader Robert Dole to cut five per cent of Israel's \$3-billion annual aid package and transfer the funds to emerging democracies was rejected by Congressmen who rushed to Israel's defense.

But the proposal, which also called for a cut in aid to the four other largest recipients of U.S. aid — Egypt, the Philippines, Turkey and Pakistan — under-

scored Bush's dilemma.

Since Dole's January proposal to cut funds to the "big five," which gobble up two-thirds of the U.S. foreign aid budget, more countries have joined the ranks of prospective recipients.

In Nicaraguan elections on February 25, a U.S.-backed coalition defeated the Sandinistas and Nicaragua joined Panama, invaded by U.S. troops last December to oust military强人 Manuel Noriega, as a legitimate aid claimant.

On March 10, General Prosper Avril was ousted from power in Haiti, and replaced by a provisional government led by Ertha Pascal, who promised general elections.

The Bush administration is proposing \$800 million for Nicaragua and Panama this year following approval of an earlier \$350-million aid and trade package for Panama. Authorisation of more than \$20 million in new aid to Haiti is pending before a House of Representatives committee.

Meanwhile, Democrats in Congress are calling for increased aid to Eastern Europe and there is widespread sentiment that it is in U.S. interests to help the new democracies there.

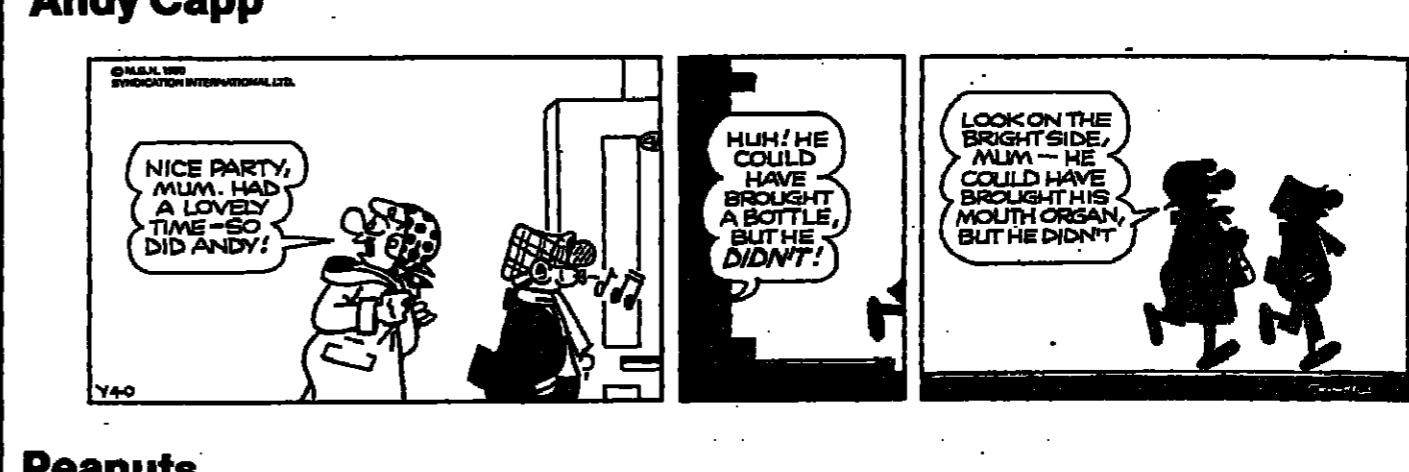
For senator Robert Byrd, powerful chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, the dramatic developments in Eastern Europe require Congress to review its foreign aid priorities.

"Our foreign aid budget has taken on a new and suddenly enhanced importance as an instrument of our goals and policies in the world," he told his colleagues.

Mutt'n Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



Features

'Beast of Exmoor' stalks by night

By Patricia Reaney
Reuter

SOUTH MOLTON, England — As soon as Mike Williams saw the mutilated, bloodless carcass of one of his sheep he knew it had been killed by something extraordinary.

The throat had been torn apart, the left ear was missing and it looked like it had been thrown around like a rag doll. Most of the blood had been sucked from the body.

"The face and neck were stripped off," said Williams. "I showed it to my father and neither of us had seen anything killed that way. You've got to see it to believe it."

The killing was so quick the animal didn't struggle and so quiet nearby sheep were undisturbed.

This was just one of hundreds of sheep killed in exactly the same way since 1983 on the edge of Exmoor, a rugged, desolate area 320 kilometre west of London which is dotted with isolated villages and solitary farms.

The first rash of killings prompted a near panic. Hunters, supersleuths and even the British marines combed the 670-square-kilometre moor in search of what has become known as "The beast of Exmoor."

"Nobody knew what were up against," said Nigel Brierly, a retired local resident who recently wrote a book "They Stalk by Night" about the beast.

"One chap had a butterfly net and another chap who was good at catching stray dogs came up from Plymouth... he trailed a large piece of meat around the moor," Brierly added.

But their efforts were useless and the killings have continued, about 50 a year by Brierly's estimate.

First suspicions, taking their cue from Arthur Conan Doyle's "The Hound of the Baskervilles," focused on an oversized dog. But padmarks near the bodies, the beast's ability to leap from extreme heights and its screeching cry led Brierly and others to suspect it was a puma or mountain lion.

"I heard it twice," said Williams, who has been farming in the area since the late 1950s. "It sounds like a woman screaming. It makes your hair stand up."

The high-pitched cry has become a familiar sound to many local residents, and several say they have seen the elusive beast.

Rod Brammer claims to have spotted the creature near his house early one morning. In one bounding leap it jumped from a wood on to the road and then to the opposite side.

"It was half and again as big as an alsatian, long and low, and what struck me was the thickness of the bone in its leg. It was hefty and had a dusky fawn colour," said Brammer who runs a local shooting school.

"I've lived in the country all my life. I'm not a pseudo country person and I know what animals look like. This was, as far as I'm concerned, a mountain lion or puma."

Brierly also claims to have seen the creature and much of his book is devoted to theory that the "Beast of Exmoor" is one or several pumas.

"I have every reason to believe they are pumas," he said.

Although they are not indigenous to Britain, Brierly believes pumas, whose natural habitat stretches from northwestern Canada to South America, could have been released from private menageries several years ago and have been breeding in the British countryside ever since.

But Doug Richardson, head keeper and cat specialist at the London zoo, is sceptical. "It's possible but I've yet to see any hard evidence that it is a puma," he said.

He dismissed the numerous sightings saying most people, unless their eyes are trained, cannot identify well-known, big-cat species.

"They can never get it right," he said, adding that he has seen people in a zoo misidentifying big cats that were labelled. Pumas do have a high-pitched cry "but so do domestic cats, and foxes also make bizarre noises," he added.

But for Richardson the lack of blood was the most convincing argument against the puma theory because sucking blood is not one of its behavioural traits.

He said the padmarks, some of which show claws, are also inconsistent with pumas because big cats retract their claws.

Brierly remains firm in his belief but even he admits: "Until one is actually caught we won't be able to be sure."

Kidnapping — a lucrative sideline for the mafia

By Clare Pedrick

PAVIA, Italy — "My mother says I should forgive them, but I can't. I hate them all — they're not even human. They treated me like a dog and I hope with all my heart that one day they suffer for what they did to me."

Cesare Casella, 20, is on the verge of tears as he relives his two-year ordeal of being chained up in a cave by a gang of professional kidnappers in southern Italy. "I'm sorry. I feel very emotional and rather shy," he adds. "For the past two years I've seen no one but hooded figures. I have to get used to living again, to people and to my family."

Doctors who examined Cesare after his dramatic release a few weeks ago say he seems to be in good physical shape, apart from a welt on his ankle caused by the chain that kept him manacled in his underground prison in the desolate Aspromonte mountains of Calabria.

"Of course, the main damage will be psychological," said Cesare's father, Luigi. "But we don't plan to call in professional help if we can avoid it. We're hoping the best care will prove to be peace and calm and a normal family life."

For the moment, at least, there is little chance of the Casella household returning to a normal family life. In their house in Pavia, 48 kilometres south of Milan, the telephone rings constantly, the house is overflowing with baskets of flowers sent by well-wishers and the postman arrives several times a day with bundles of letters and telegrams from all over Italy. Outside, staff from Luigi Casella's Citroen car dealership have hurriedly torn down the huge banner urging "Free Casella" that they put up two years ago. Now a new message blazoned, "Welcome Home Cesare!"

It was just after 8 p.m. on Jan. 18, 1988, when Luigi Casella found his son's car abandoned outside the family home. The doors were open, the headlights still on, and it was soon clear that his son had been abducted. He was to be 744 agonising days before the family would be united. Cesare's release, unharmed, from the clutches of a gang that has in the past sent severed ears and fingers as macabre warnings to relatives was as sudden and as unexpected as his disappearance.

Since his return, Cesare's time has been spent catching up with old friends, going out to discos, watching his favourite soccer team, "Milan," as guest of honour — and eating. During his captivity he lived on cheese and plates of beans and pasta. His first request once back home was for a plate of his grandmother's "spaghetti alla carbonara."

Cesare himself confesses to feeling restless. Used to being awakened at dawn every morning, he finds it hard to sleep more than a few hours each night. His own bed now seems too soft. "He can't sit still. He wants to be outside all the time after so long cooped up underground," said his mother, Angela. "He has this desperate urge to live all the things he has missed out on since the age of 18." He has also had to readjust to going back to school and to meeting new classmates.

As it turned out, Cesare's captors marched him down from the

All of his contemporaries have graduated and gone on to university.

One of Cesare's first appointments was a long talk with the father of Carlo Celadon, a 21-year-old boy who was kidnapped from his home in the northern town of Vicenza exactly one week after Cesare and who is one of five victims still being held by the Calabrian bandits. The others are two youths in their late teens, a 60-year-old man, a 50-year old woman and Patrizia Tacchella, age 8, whose father owns a jeans manufacturing company in Verona. Patrizia was abducted 100 yards from her home on the day before Cesare Casella was released.

The police believe that all the hostages are being held in the same rugged and sparsely populated area of Aspromonte, in the toe of Italy, where gangs linked to the local 'Ndrangheta Mafia hide their victims in caves. Calabria, one of the poorest regions of Italy, has a reputation as an outpost for outlaws and bandits that stretches well back into the last century, but in the past decade kidnapping has become a multimillion dollar business, the proceeds often recycled into drug-running and other illegal activities.

Victims usually come from the rich northern towns of Italy and their lifestyle is studied carefully before the strike is made. They are often sold by one gang to another, as Cesare himself almost certainly was. At least 30 victims have never been heard from again.

Captive freed after 6 months

METAPONTO, Italy (AP) — A 24-year-old Italian car salesman kidnapped last October was freed Thursday night on a state road near this hamlet in the southern region of Basilicata, police said.

Cataldo Albanese was picked up by his parents, after he called them from a phone booth at gas station, and taken by them to the Metaponto police station.

He had a long beard, long hair, and wore the same clothes he had on when he was abducted 163 days ago in his nearby home-town of Massafra, but was in good health, police said.

Cesare's parents paid a ransom of 100 million lire (\$83,000) to his son's kidnappers. Carlo Celadon's father, a wealthy industrialist, has handed over five billion lire (\$4.2 million), the highest ransom ever paid in Italy, but has not been paid from the kidnappers for months.

Said Cesare: "My Captors used to beat me up from time to time and they kept me chained up by the ankle and the neck, first in a cave two metres square, then in a slightly larger one. But the hardest part was the psychological torture. They tried to destroy my morale by telling me that my father was a bastard and that instead of paying the ransom he had only brought a suitcase full of waste paper. If I'm alive today it's because I refused to let them get me down. I told Celadon's father that if his son has a strong will and has faith in his family then I'm sure he will make it."

Cesare's moment of real fear came shortly before his release, when his kidnappers gave him a change of clothing and led him out of the cave. "I knew something was up," he said. "You could tell they were very nervous. I thought they were going to kill me."

As it turned out, Cesare's captors marched him down from the



In southern Italy, kidnapping has become big business. Victims are seized throughout the country and hidden sometimes for years in mountain caves (WNL).

mountains and left him chained to a metal stake near a riverbed. He soon freed himself and, walking to the nearest village, knocked on the door of surprised pensioner Salvatore Giugno, who gave him a bowl of hot milk and called the police.

Many people believe that 'Ndrangheta leaders ordered Cesare's release because their operations were being curtailed by the hordes of police and soldiers searching the Calabria region for the boy.

Whatever the truth, at least part of the credit should go to his mother, who last year made the 1,200-kilometre trip south to plead for her son's life and galvanise public opinion. Angela Casella's pilgrimage took her to three villages in the Aspromonte region, held to be the nerve

We used to feel guilty for not having the money they demanded of us."

Although comfortably off, the Casellas are not fabulously wealthy, and finding the ransom meant mortgaging the car dealership business that Luigi Casella had built up. Then, 10 days after the drop-off in August 1988 came the bombshell. In a move typical of extortions, the kidnappers made it known that this would be only the first of three equal payments. The Casellas did not have the money. During the months that followed relations between husband and wife and their other son, 19-year-old Carlo, became strained. "I used to go to bed and cry 'there because I knew my husband and younger son couldn't take much more of seeing how distraught I was,'" said Angela.

Then, just after the family's first Christmas without Cesare, there was another blow. Luigi Casella managed to scrape together some more money and offered it to the kidnappers through a coded message in the small advertising section of a newspaper. Soon after a delivery date had been agreed on, however, the magistrate handling the case decided to enforce a rarely used law that forbids families from paying ransoms. As a result the ransom money was confiscated by police.

The Casellas became deeply disillusioned and frustrated with officials dealing with the case, but relations improved after police informed them late one night this winter that Cesare had been set free. "He had to repeat it 10 times before I really took it in," said Angela Casella. "We had suffered so many disappointments over the past two years."

Cesare's first words to his mother on the telephone were, "Hello, is that the Mother of Courage?" "The kidnappers sometimes brought me old newspapers and I read about my mother's trip to Calabria," he explained. "It was she who gave me the strength to carry on."

Much later, Cesare recounted one of the worst moments of his long captivity. "Once I saw a shepherd through the crack in the door that they'd put at the entrance to the cave," he said. "I called out, 'I'm Cesare Casella, the boy who's been kidnapped.' He just pulled his cap down over his ears and walked away. I remember thinking, 'Here we're still in Italy, not the Amazon jungle, but I was wrong. Down there the law counts for nothing.'"

— World News Link

A good job of classifying, studying archaeology finds

By Nicola Ziadeh

THE SPADE and shovel have been very active in Jordan, mainly in the Ghor (Jordan Valley). I visited him while working at Deir Alla, and one or two other places. Whenever I visit Jordan I make it a point to look him up (as well as others).

When the fifth conference on the history of Bilad Al Sham was held in Amman recently (March 4-8, 1990), I met Yassine. He kindly presented me with a copy of his "Archaeology of Jordan — Essays and Reports." To claim having read the 273-page volume would tax my conscience; but I have carefully leafed through it, making brief halts here and there to satisfy a curious eye gazing at one of the numerous plates; intriguingly trying to fathom the meaning of the contours of a map; or more leisurely reading a page or so about an interesting item.

This was enough to prove to me that the budding scholar of the early 70s is the mature one of the 90s. The first part of the book deals with specific issues and analyses and the second

1978) at that university.

Prof. Yassine has dug fairly extensively in Jordan, mainly in the Ghor (Jordan Valley). I visited him while working at Deir Alla, and one or two other places. Whenever I visit Jordan I make it a point to look him up (as well as others).

Yassine was at a loss where to place a lone chapter (written with James Sauer), so he stuck it at the end and gave it the miserable name of Addendum — its subject matter deals with "History and Archaeology of Jordan in Perspective." This addendum interested me most: It is, as far as I am concerned, an approval, coming from two archaeologists, of my call for at least fifty years of the use of archaeology to the historian. The different periods (historically conceived) of Jordanian history are tied to the archaeological achievements of the spade and shovel.

The book is, by the way, profusely illustrated, beautifully produced and "made in Amman."

A tribute to Charles de Gaulle

By Oliver Clement

FEW MEN have marked the history of France as much as Charles de Gaulle. In 30 years of public life, he saved the country from the Nazi invaders (1940-45), renewed the institutions of the republic (1958) and introduced a bold and vigorous international policy (1958-69) putting France back in a strong position on a world level. And he achieved all that amid the most extraordinary exterior and interior turmoil, storms and dangers. De Gaulle had a character, a will and a broadness of thought which made him the key person of modern France.

In 1990, which will simultaneously mark the hundredth anniversary of the great man's birth on Nov. 22, 1890, the 50th anniversary of the call of June 18, 1940 and also the 20th anniversary of his death on Nov. 9, 1970, will be "De Gaulle Year." Numerous events will thus be held this year and by then the nation will pay homage to the person and action of this exceptional man who so greatly marked the destiny of France.

The Charles de Gaulle Institute is in charge of organising the various events planned. The mission of this institute, founded in 1971, is to gather and preserve items which will enable everybody, and particularly young people, to gain a better understanding of General de Gaulle's work and to appreciate its scope. It is thus quite natural that this private organisation, known for its independence and the quality of its work, should have been put in charge of this commemorative year. Bernard Tricot, a member of the institute's board of directors, has been appointed as the general coordinator of this huge operation whose main activities will be centred on the important dates in the general's life.

On June 15, 1990, a big exhibition on de Gaulle will be inaugurated at the Arc de Triomphe, bearing the text of the call of June 18, 1940. On the same evening, a very important event will be held in the same place to honour the French Resistance with torchbearers converging on the Arc de Triomphe. On June 18, the usual ceremonies which are held every year to commemorate that historic date, will take place with, in particular, homage paid to the martyrs of the resistance, at Mont-Valérien.

The year 1990 is the date of de Gaulle's sudden death, just 20 years ago. Every year, his death is honoured on that date by the Compagnons de la Libération. In 1990, it will be honoured with particular solemnity. After mass, celebrated at Saint-Louis des Invalides church, a special train will take the general's companions and faithful followers to Colombey where, not far from his house, "la Boissière," (which has become a museum today), stands a huge Lorraine cross, perpetuating the memory of de Gaulle and his action in the service of France.

One of the most important events devoted to General de

Gaulle in 1990 will take place at the time of the anniversary of his birth a hundred years ago in Lille. This is the international symposium organised by UNESCO whose theme will be "De Gaulle in his century."

There will be no fewer than 300 participants from 50 countries. It will be held from Nov. 19 to 24. On Nov. 17, the model of a monument to the memory of Charles de Gaulle, designed by Olivier Debré, will be inaugurated at Porte Maillot in Paris. On Nov. 18, the participants from the symposium will go to Colombey. On the 19th the opening session will be held. Numerous contributions will be made on themes such as "De Gaulle and the media" or "De Gaulle and decolonisation."

According to the Charles de Gaulle Institute in charge of organising the symposium, "20 years after de Gaulle's death and 50 years after he made history, it is essentially a matter of appreciating the memory that his contemporaries in France and in the world have kept of him, to see what kind of image younger generations have of him, and to measure the influence of his writings, his actions and his whole personality."

The symposium will end with receptions at the prime minister's residence (Matignon) and Paris City Hall.

The year 1990 will also be marked by a series of publications. "Extraits pour l'Avenir: De Gaulle a dit" will be re-edited by Editions Press Pocket. The Charles de Gaulle Institute will bring out an international bibliography of works published about General de Gaulle. The four annual issues of "l'Espoir," the institute's review, will be devoted to the 1990 commemoration. Television programmes will also be shown.

The de Gaulle year will also be looking abroad. A travelling film and exhibition will be shown all over the world by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

— L'Actualité en France.

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'Thieves in the night'

Israel parliament approves \$31.2b budget amid protests

TEL AVIV (AP) — The parliament early Friday approved its fiscal budget amid a furor over political allocations to religious parties and one legislator labelled Israel's leaders "thieves in the night."

Most of the wrath focused over the earmarking of over \$110 million (230 million shekels) to religious institutions pushed forward by the right-wing Likud bloc headed by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and snowballed by Shimon Peres' centre-left Labour Party.

Both major parties need the backing of the key ultra-orthodox factions to break the 60-60 parliamentary tie and both sides have been wooing them with offers of political jobs and funds to Yeshivas (religious seminaries), as enticements for their support.

The amount tripled the special allocations to religious institu-

tions. Likud and Labour, meanwhile, joined forces to push through two and a half million dollars (five million shekels) for their party-affiliated institutions and \$10 million was added to the budget for settlements.

The legislature voted 42 to 10 to approve the \$31.2 billion (62.5 billion shekels) budget for fiscal 1990/1 following a heated marathon debate spanning over 40 hours.

David Levy, Likud housing minister, managed to push through approval for an additional \$100 million (200 million shekels) for building 30,000 apartment units for the expected wave of Soviet immigrants.

During a filibuster prior to the budget debate, Haim Oron of the socialist Mapam Party lashed out at the backroom dealing of the major parties to woo over the religious factions.

"The expression 'thieves in the

night' is not slander, it is not a bad term for the parliament. It is a minimal description in polite words of what is going on," he said.

Dan Meridor, justice minister from Likud, agreed the budget suffered from the political crisis brought about when the government fell after Shamir lost a no-confidence vote earlier this month.

"Today we can say we have started the process of reducing the gaps between ultra-orthodox education and regular schooling," he said on Israel Radio.

Outraged Israelis protested the allocations to institutions belonging to the ultra-orthodox Jews, most of whom are exempt from army service.

Students from the Labour Party, dressed as ultra-orthodox with black hats and sidecurls demonstrated outside their party's headquarters in Tel Aviv and called on party leaders to stop "bowing down" to religious parties because their youths do not serve in the army, Israel Radio, reported.

Shlomo Ben-Ezri, an instructor at one religious seminary justified the government funds they will receive in the new budget.

"We are taking care of Israeli boys who were about to fall into crime," he told Israel Television.

Iranian exporters face hurdles

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — An Iranian official Thursday complained that lack of facilities and cumbersome government regulations were impeding exports of non-oil products, Tehran Radio

reported.

The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, quoted the unidentified commerce ministry official as saying that "the current banking and commercial structures of the country are geared completely toward importers, and these facilities have never been made available to exporters."

The official's complaint came at a time when President Hashemi Rafsanjani's government is pressing to boost non-oil exports

Iran relies on oil and gas-related exports for more than 90 per cent of its foreign exchange.

But the budget for the current Iranian year, which began March 21, projects revenues from non-oil exports at more than \$18 billion.

The official Thursday said that "exporters of non-oil goods must pass through hundreds of offices, obtain as many licenses, and face various problems to send out samples and market their products," the radio reported.

Tokyo stock prices register steep drop

TOKYO (AP) — Prices on the Tokyo Stock Exchange dropped more than 1,000 points in a market dominated by profit-taking and discouragement Friday, while the U.S. dollar surged against the Japanese yen.

The market's key index, the Nikkei stock average of 225 selected issues, lost 1,045.71 points, or 3.37 per cent — in the market's seventh largest decline in terms of both points and percentage — to end the week at 29,981.45.

The Nikkei fell 237.41 points Thursday.

Securities dealers said prices fell on selling across the board due to a decline in the value of the Japanese yen against the dollar and an overnight fall on Wall Street.

Heavy selling pressure prevented the traditional "window dressing," or bidding up stock prices to increase the recorded value of firms' stock holdings at the end of the fiscal year, March 31.

Brokerages remained on the sidelines because "they knew that if they bought, they'd only be battered by heavy selling," said Yoshihiro Ito, general manager of stock trading at Okasan Securities.

The selling pressure prevented further buying of blue-chip issues that had rebounded earlier in the week, dealers said.

Wide expectations of a further weakening of the yen beyond the 160 yen per U.S. dollar level also sapped buying interest, said Shin Tokio, deputy general manager of stock trading at County Northwest Securities.

Volume was a relatively light 500 million shares.

In currency dealings, the dollar

rebounded to close at 157.65 yen, up 1.00 yen from Thursday's close of 156.65 yen. After opening at 156.80 yen, the currency ranged between 156.75 yen and 157.95 yen.

It surged sharply higher at mid-day under what some dealers described as suspicious circumstances.

Numerous dealers, Japanese and foreign, said a sudden rise to almost 158 yen smacked of collusion among the small number of banks involved in fixing the year-end rate, which was set at 158 yen. The banks involved appeared to have bid the dollar up to lock in windfall profits, they said.

An official at the Bank of Japan said the central bank was considering investigating inquiries about the dollar's sudden rise just at the time the market's year-end dollar-yen rate is fixed. The year-end rate is used by many firms as a benchmark exchange rate.

The dollar has been advancing against the yen for several weeks as Japanese corporations bought the currency, amid general pessimism about the yen, to help improve their balance sheets at the close of their fiscal year.

Thursday, the yen made a brief recovery in Tokyo after rebounding in New York Wednesday following intervention by the U.S. Federal Reserve.

But most dealers saw the recovery as temporary. They said strong demand for dollars due to an outflow of capital from Japan is the single largest factor pushing the dollar's value higher against the yen.

"The demand for the dollar is very big," said a dealer at a long-term credit bank.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY MARCH 31, 1990
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A fine day to get your affairs in a very solid and secure structure by making a point to work every possible angle in that direction and to show that you are willing to forget wishful thinking.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Put yourself in a position to be more aware of the needs and desires of your household and to find new ways to make family happier.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) In any communications with other persons make sure that you add a personal note of friendship to strengthen bonds between you and them.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Look at what you possess and see what you can best do to increase its value by adding something others regard as attractive and valuable.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You can exude more than usual care today so don't hold back but get closer to those you like by actively expressing it in little ways.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Quietly let your close attachment know more definitely of the love and affection that you feel for that person and you reap big rewards.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Consider what friend has been having a most difficult time and do what you can to appease any un-

happiness by a lighthearted spirit towards him/her.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You make your biggest progress now by expressing your special charm in the world of outside activities and especially with influential persons.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) A new acquaintance who is connected with a close companion is the best person for you to concentrate on for deeper later friendships.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) An associate who is usually very restless and nervous will respond to your desire for you a more worldwide alliance now so contact this person.

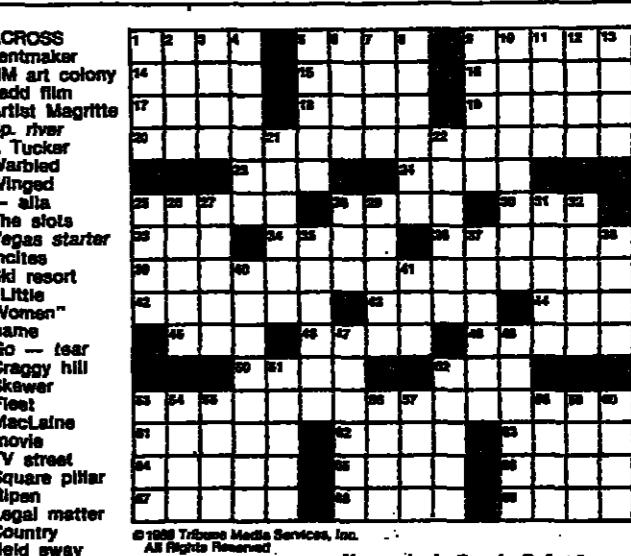
CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) A friend who has been out of sorts can be put in a good humour by you if you take the time to develop more interest in mutual joint concerns.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A fine day to arrange the entertainments and recreations that appeal to you the best and to invite those you like to join you in them.

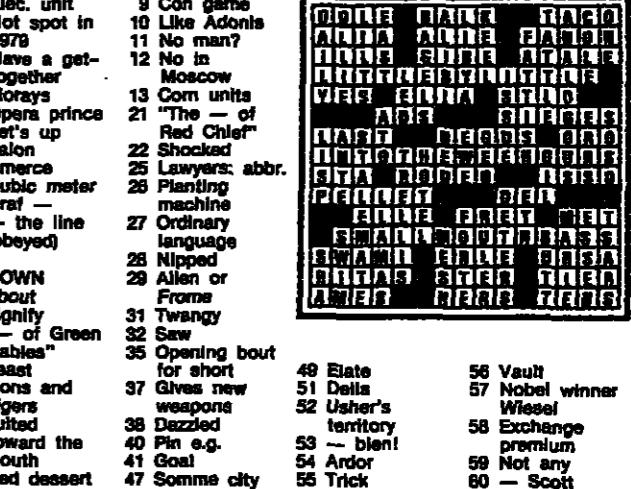
PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You are naturally quite traditional in thought and deed by if you want to take some chance in another direction, this is the day to do so.

THE Daily Crossword

by C.F. Murray



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



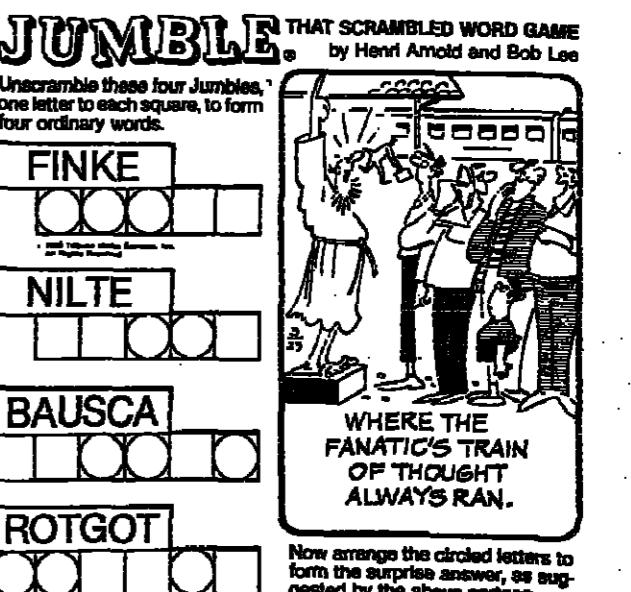
THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

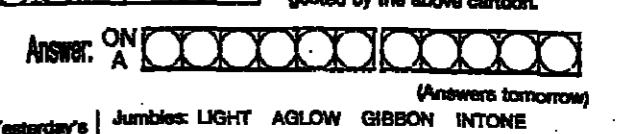


JUMBLE

THAT SCRABBLE WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.



Yesterday's Jumbles: LIGHT AGLOW GIBBON INTONE
Answer: What some evening dresses are—
MORE GONE THAN GOWN

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

| Thursday, March 29, 1990 | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Central Bank official rates | |
| Buy | Sell |
| U.S. dollar 669.0 | 673.0 |
| Pound Sterling 1092.0 | 1097.7 |
| Deutschmark 306.6 | 305.0 |
| Swiss franc 443.0 | 445.7 |
| French franc 116.7 | 117.4 |
| Japanese yen (for 100) | 427.7 |
| Dutch guilder 348.7 | 350.3 |
| Swedish crown 108.8 | 109.5 |
| Italian lire 53.4 | 53.7 |
| Belgian franc (for 100) | 190.6 |
| | 191.7 |

Amman Financial Market weekly trading

| Following is a summary of trading during last week and the previous week: | |
|---|--------------|
| March 24-28 | March 17-21 |
| Daily average | |
| Total volume | JD 467,238 |
| Total shares | JD 2,336,189 |
| No. of contracts | 1,277,774 |
| Sectoral trading: | |
| Industrial | JD 1,093,107 |
| Financial | JD 731,037 |
| Service | JD 1,277,774 |
| Insurance | JD 1,277,774 |
| Share price index | 135.0 |
| No. of companies | 59 |
| Price movement (rise) | 13 |
| (decline) | 34 |
| (stable) | 12 |
| | 16 |
| | 39 |
| | 10 |

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

| LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession and bullion markets Friday. | |
|--|-------------------|
| One Sterling | 1.6415/25 |
| One U.S. dollar | 1.1715/25 |
| Canadian dollar | 1.6940/47 |
| Deutschmarks | 1.9060/70 |
| Dutch guilders | 1.4970/80 |
| Swiss francs | 35.01/06 |
| Belgian francs | 5.6975/7025 |
| French francs | 1248/1249 |
| Italian lire | 157.27/37 |
| Japanese yen | 6.1195/1245 |
| Swedish crowns | 6.5570/5620 |
| Norwegian crowns | 6.4635/85 |
| Danish crowns | One ounce of gold |
| U.S. dollars | 371.57/372.25 |

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

| SYDNEY — Australia's share market closed weaker but off its lows after a day of volatile trading. The All Ordinaries index finished 11.4 points off at 1,535.7. | |
|---|--|
| TOKYO — The Nikkei index plunged below the 30,000-point mark, partly on selling by institutional fund managers before closing their books at the end of the fiscal year. Disappointment at the yen's failure to sustain Thursday's gains against the dollar worsened the sell-off. The index ended at 29,980.45, down 1,045.71. | |
| HONG KONG — Share prices closed easier on profit-taking before the weekend. The Hang Seng index fell 2.54 to 2,997.98. | |
| SINGAPORE — Share prices closed lower across the board on stoploss selling and profit-taking in nervous reaction to the Tokyo plunge. The Straits Times industrial index fell 13.13 to 1,581.68. | |
| BOMBAY — Shares were bullish in hectic trading for the new account, after carry-forward charges for business done in the | |

Duke vs. Arkansas, Georgia Tech vs. Nevada-Las Vegas in final four

DENVER (AP) — Georgia Tech and Duke both bail from the Atlantic Coast Conference, and both rely on freshman point guards. So much for similarities.

While it certainly isn't unusual for one conference to have two teams in the final four — it's happened three times in a row, six times in the last decade — rarely have they brought such different histories to the National Collegiate Athletic Association Tournament.

Duke, which meets Arkansas (30-4) in the first game of Saturday's semifinal doubleheader, has become a fixture in the final four.

Duke (28-8) has been there four of the past five years and the last three in a row. Only John Wooden of UCLA with 12 appearances in 14 years can match what coach Mike Krzyzewski has done at Duke.

Still, Krzyzewski has yet to win a national championship.

Georgia Tech faces Nevada-Las Vegas (33-5), the precursors no. 1 team and only top seed to get to Denver, in the second semifinal. Georgia Tech (28-8) is making its first final four appearance after a decade of being expected to get there.

The teams do have one thing in common: freshman point guards.

Georgia Tech's Kenny Anderson and Duke's Hurley came on the scene at the same time after spectacular high school careers in the New York area.

"You have to remember they were ranked as the best point guards in the east, no question, and in the country as well," Georgia Tech coach Bobby Cremins said. "I would have loved to have Bobby Hurley in this programme. He's a great point guard."

The one he got is no slouch, either.

Anderson, the smoothest and fastest man with the ball in college now, has stepped up from an impressive rookie season with a 27-point average in the postseason, including a controversial buzzer-beater to send the regional semifinal against Michigan state into overtime.

Hurley has been more content to be the playmaker, with 30 assists in the four tournament games. He was 0-for-9 shooting against Connecticut in the east regional final, and his driving, last-second shot in regulation was knocked away by the Huskies' Rod Sellers.

Both Anderson and Hurley will have an interesting matchup Saturday.

Anderson will have to deal with the pressure defense of Nevada-Las Vegas, especially the tenacious Anderson Hunt.

Hunt is averaging 15.4 points per game, but is known for his defense.

"We like to play man-to-man," Nevada-Las Vegas coach Jerry Tarkman said. "If you watch us in the zone, we work as hard as we do in the man-to-man. We go out and challenge every pass. We want to put the pressure on."

Hurley will have to deal with Southwest Conference co-player of the year Lee Mayberry, who averaged 14.6 points and nearly six assists per game.

"Hurley is sort of the head of their whole show," said Arkansas coach Nolan Richardson. "I'm trying to cut off the head, and the head is Hurley."

Duke starts a frontline which features Christian Laettner, 16.3 points and 9.4 rebounds, and Alaa Abdiney, 14.9 and 6.7.

Arkansas relies more on a perimeter game with Oliver Miller and Mario Credit, both 6-9, given the assignment of stopping Duke's big men.

Entries for 1990 Indianapolis 500

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The Indianapolis motor speedway received entries Thursday for Bobby Rahal, winner of the closest three-car finish in Indianapolis 500 history, and Al Unser Jr., who was bumped into the wall less than two laps from the checkered flag a year ago.

Two cars apiece for Rahal and Unser were among five Chevrolet-powered Lola entries submitted by the new Galles-Kraus racing team of Albuquerque, New Mexico. Three other entries, listing Panchito Carter as driver of two of them, were filed

by Leader Cards, Inc., of Milwaukee.

The eight cars raised the entry total to 76, with more than a dozen others expected before the midnight April 2 deadline. The speedway opens for practice May 3, with qualifications May 12-13

Platini dreams of World Cup glory

PARIS (R) — French national team chief Michel Platini said Friday his present squad would have had a chance of winning this summer's World Cup in Italy — if France had qualified.

Platini, looking back on the French team's most successful season ever, told the sports daily L'equipe in an interview: "We

would have gone there with the aim of winning. Perhaps we wouldn't have done it. There's a good chance that we wouldn't have. But I say this team would have had some punch."

"After all, we beat three teams (Sweden, Scotland and West Germany) who are going to Italy... ah well, we must stop dreaming."

Platini has transformed the French side in the past year into an attractive, attacking team.

Brazil learns lesson from soccer loss

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Brazilians blamed a referee's disputed call for Brazil's 1-0 loss to England in an exhibition soccer match Wednesday but admitted their team must improve before the World Cup in June.

In the controversial play, Brazilian attacker Muller shot and British defender Pearce appeared to block the ball with his hand after it had crossed the goal line. But German referee Klaus Pischel failed to mark any infraction.

"Brazil robbed in London," Brazil loses on referee's error," and

"what a thieving referee," were some of the headlines in Rio newspapers Thursday.

The loss was the team's first since last June, when Brazil lost 1-0 to Switzerland.

"Brazil tied 1-1 with England and lost 1-0 to Germany," joked Mario Zagallo, former Alfonso player and coach of Brazil's 1970 world championship team.

However, the sporting press criticized the defensive style of play ordered by coach Sebastiao Lazaroni and questioned whether it was the best tactic for the upcoming World Cup in Italy. Lazaroni uses a European-style sweeper and four defenders, with only two attackers.

"It's clear the team plays too defensively. In trying to make Brazil play the European way, Lazaroni doesn't have options to give the team more offense," said sports commentator Joao Maximo of Rio's JB radio station.

Lazaroni said the team's mediocre showing was in part due to lack of training. Brazil had not played since December, when it beat the Netherlands 1-0 in Rotterdam.

However, many worry that Brazil has sacrificed its trademark offensive firepower. In its last 10 games, the team has not scored more than one goal except against fragile Venezuela, the doormat of South American soccer.

Brazil has never won a World Cup by stressing defense more than

offense. For that reason, yesterday's result was not a defeat — it was a warning," wrote Roberto Benevides of the newspaper O Estado de Sao Paulo.

Against England, Brazil improved in the second half with the entrance of Muller and midfielder Alemao, considered the top players along with midfielder Valdo and defenceman Branco. But the team never presenting the "audacious" offence promised by Lazaroni.

The goal that the referee didn't validate was unforgivable and probably shook up Brazil. But we missed several scoring chances through over-anxiousness and lack of creativity," said Didi, a veteran of Brazil's world championship teams in 1958 and 1962.

On the British team, sportswriter chose midfielder Waddle, attackers Barnes and Lineker as the standouts

GOREN BRIDGE

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SEEING ISN'T ALWAYS BELIEVING

Both vulnerable. South deals.

| | |
|-----------|---------------|
| NORTH | ♦ 3 8 6 |
| | ♦ K 9 2 |
| | ♦ 10 3 |
| WEST | ♦ Q J 8 4 |
| ♦ 5 3 | ♦ Q 10 |
| ♦ A 10 7 | ♦ 8 5 3 |
| Q 6 4 2 | ♦ K J 9 |
| ♦ K 9 5 3 | ♦ 10 7 6 2 |
| SOUTH | ♦ A K 9 7 4 2 |
| | ♦ Q 9 4 |
| | ♦ A 8 5 |
| | ♦ A |

The bidding:

| | | | |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| South | West | North | East |
| 1 ♠ | Pass | 1 NT | Pass |
| 3 ♠ | Pass | 4 ♦ | Pass |
| Pass | Pass | | |

Opening lead: Five of ♠

In his Bol's Bridge Tip, Terence Rees suggests that there are times when a simple falsehood may achieve a spectacular result for the defense. This is one of the hands Rees cites to illustrate the point.

After a simple auction, North-South reach a contract of four spades. Since a lead from any of the plain suits is unappealing, West chooses to lead a trump.

Let's see what would happen with routine defense. East's ten would force the king and declarer would cash the ace. When both opponents follow, declarer cashes the ace of clubs, crosses to the jack of spades and leads the queen of clubs. If East covers with the king, declarer ruffs and, since the ace of hearts is with West, another red-suited loser can be discarded on the jack of clubs.

If East does not cover, declarer discards a diamond and, at most, he loses a trick in hearts, diamonds and clubs. Either way, the contract would be cold.

Now let's suppose East were to play the queen of trumps on the opening lead. Declarer wins and, if the trump queen were indeed singleton, there is a safer line to 10 tricks than relying on West to hold the ace of hearts. Declarer could cash the ace of clubs and then lead a trump to the eight(!), playing West for the ten. That allows East to gain the lead with the ten of spades and a diamond return dooms the contract.

With an unexpected trump trick in the bank, the defenders must come to three more tricks no matter how declarer maneuvers.

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Australia, New Zealand even at 1-1 in Davis Cup

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) — Wally Masur crushed Kelly Evernden in straight sets Friday to lift Australia into a 1-1 tie with underdog New Zealand in the Davis Cup world group quarterfinal at Milton Tennis center.

Masur triumphed 6-3, 7-6 (7-0), 6-1 in under two hours, blowing Evernden off the court with a powerful serve-and-volley game.

New Zealand's squad had jumped out to a 1-0 lead when Brett Steven, ranked 429th in the world, upset experienced John Fitzgerald in a five-set battle.

Steven, a 20-year-old playing

only the third Davis Cup singles of his career, rallied from the brink of defeat to win 6-0, 6-6, 6-4, 6-2 in a contest twice interrupted by rain.

Fitzgerald was controversially included as a singles player in the Australian team ahead of Mark Kratzmann — and the move back-fired on captain Neale Fraser.

Steven, who spent a year at Southern Methodist University, grew in confidence as the match progressed and played smart tennis to fight back from two sets to one and 1-4 down.

"I was pretty nervous early on and it showed, but I just got stronger and stronger," Steven said. "I knew I was fit enough to play five sets and I took advantage when he went off his game a little bit."

Fitzgerald, a grass court expert playing his first Davis Cup singles for over three years, became increasingly sluggish as the match progressed.

"I've no excuses, but I'm going to have nightmares about it tonight," Fitzgerald said. "I don't think I've ever fed that easily and lost."

Olympic museum — Sports Fans' Disneyland

LAUSANNE (AP) — An Olympic museum billed as the Sports Fans' Disneyland is being built on the shores of Lake Geneva, but one of its designers worries that the plan may lessen the glory of the games.

Said United manager Alex Ferguson: "He did well for a first appearance of the season and had an immediate influence on the team."

Ferguson will be looking to Webb to play a key role in United's battle to haul themselves away from the relegation zone.

Coutry boss John Sillett has ordered his first-team players to take hospital blood tests to discover the reason for their recent lethargic displays.

He thought they looked jaded in the two home defeats by Sheffield Wednesday and Charlton.

"It's just a precaution," he said. "It baffled me that all our midfield players seemed to have no energy.

"We don't expect any problems when we get the results of the tests, but at least it will have put our minds at rest."

Soviet international defender Alexei Cherednik is expected to make his debut for Southampton against title favourites Liverpool on Saturday.

Cherednik, who has played four reserve matches and was substitute in the defeat by Manchester United last week, is the obvious replacement for left back Francis Benali who begins a three-match ban.

Southampton's former Liverpool midfield player Jimmy Case is available again after completing a similar suspension.

Aston Villa play Manchester City Sunday so Liverpool will displace them as league leaders if they beat Southampton at Anfield. Villa boast a three-point lead but have played two games more than Liverpool.

interior work. The grand opening is set for late 1993, just before the IOC's 100th birthday.

With corporate donations paying for most of the development, the IOC is concentrating on what the museum will show and how it will show it.

The design by architects Pedro Ramirez Vasquez, an IOC member from Mexico, and Jean-Pierre Caen provides 2,500 square metres and the committee has hundreds of thousands of exhibits from which to choose.

Ramirez Vasquez wants the museum to emphasize "the positive" — the glory of winning, not the drug scandals, political boycotts and other intrusions of the real world that have accompanied the growth of the games in the last three decades.

Using videotapes, computers and other state-of-the-art technology, it also will give the average fan a chance to sample the flavor of being an Olympic athlete, such as crouching into starting blocks for an 100-metre dash or looking down a 90-metre ski run.

"It will not be a museum of sport but of the Olympics, and not just the Olympic games but the Olympic movement," said Raymond Gainer, the IOC's former administrator who is in charge of the museum project.

Concrete is just being poured at the site, and the exterior should be finished by 1991 with another year or so to do the

transcendence of the Olympic games at their best, showing the creativity of mankind, not his worst actions, not his negativity," Ramirez Vasquez said.

He seemed most sensitive about the events surrounding the 1968 games in Mexico City. Three days before the opening ceremonies, troops opened fire on students demonstrating

on the streets and in the university.

Pahud and Gainer, the project chief, also said the IOC aimed at building "the museum of the 21st century," which will do more than just have artifacts in display cases and articles in a hushed library.

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De Klerk threatens to use force as violence continues

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Rival black factions battled with guns and knives for a fourth day Friday as thousands of refugees fled from townships after savage fighting left at least 36 people dead and hundreds wounded, police said.

President F.W. de Klerk warned Friday that political violence was becoming a threat to stability and the government would use force to restore order.

He said a growing wave of violence and demonstrations was getting out of hand. "Demonstrators openly espousing violence or preaching class and racial hatred are playing with fire. Fanning these flames may easily lead to a catastrophic intergroup conflagration," he told the Cape Town Press Club.

"De Klerk said he would make a statement to parliament on April 2 on measures to stop the violence, but gave no details. South Africa has been hit by a wave of violence that has claimed hundreds of lives in recent weeks. De Klerk starts talks next month on ending white-minority rule and sharing political power with blacks. The speech Friday appeared to be aimed at radical black groups who oppose a negotiated settlement and call for

political unrest.

Police patrols trying to restore order in Natal were ambushed during the night. Police units came under heavy gunfire, but no officers were seriously hurt. Kitching said. South African army troops were supporting police operations, he said.

War bands of between 2,000 men and 4,000 men armed with guns, spears, knives and clubs had been roaming the area, attacking and burning villages, residents said. Police said at least 250 homes had been burned.

Thousands of terrified refugees, mainly women, children and old people, had fled from villages in the Edendale Valley. Refugees were seeking shelter in schools, churches and community centres, police said.

Schools, businesses and shops were closed today, and thousands of workers unable to get to work because bus services had been halted. Many people were hiding in the hills or seeking shelter at refugee collection points such as schools.

White officials in the nearby city of Pietermaritzburg called on the government to impose martial law on the area.

Third Stalin-era mass grave found in E. Germany

SCHMIDENHAGEN, East Germany (R) — East German soldiers Friday unearthed a mass grave said to contain Germans interned by Stalin's security Police at a former Nazi concentration camp after World War II.

The discovery, in woods north of Berlin, was the third of its kind in a week as East Germany's new democratic authorities relentlessly come to grips with horrors of Stalinism long hidden up by their Communist predecessors.

Reporters watched as East German troops dug up more than 10 human skeletons which officials identified as Germans held at the nearby Sachsenhausen Camp after it was seized by Soviet security forces from the Nazis at the end of the war.

Found outside the village of Schmidenhagen 30 kilometres north of Berlin, the mass grave lay not far from one discovered Tuesday and also linked by officials to deaths at Sachsenhausen under Soviet occupation.

Rusted metal identification plates were found around the ankles of skeletons. Sachsenhausen camp survivors have said such plates were attached to the ankles of deceased inmates before they were buried.

"These indicate that the bodies found here came from the internment camp," said Wolfgang Titz, the official in charge of the monument to victims of Sachsenhausen during the Nazi era.

Empty bullet cartridges were also found among the skeletons but their origin was unclear, Titz said. Some cartridges carried markings dating from the war and others appeared to have been made in the mid-1960s.

A local resident said this week she witnessed Soviet troops at Sachsenhausen now down German prisoners with machine-guns.

But an army major at the excavation site said troops have trained in the Schmidenhagen area in recent years and commonly buried bullet casings in the forest.

"They did not wait for the U.N. forces and to turn in weapons," said Oscar Sovalbarro, a military chief of the Nicaraguan Resistance, the rebels' umbrella group. "Only about 3,000 war wounded and their families remain in the camps," he added.

"A large majority of our combatants have already crossed the Honduran border to go to Nicaragua," Sovalbarro said. "The Nicaraguan Resistance is in that

way fulfills its promises."

U.S. Ambassador Curtis Arcos congratulated President Rafael Leonardo Callejas for his role in getting the rebels to leave Honduras.

"The contras have been dissolved ... and Callejas resolved that problem," Arcos told a news conference at the presidential offices.

"It was a notable feat by Callejas," he said. "He must be congratulated for it. His efforts contributed to the demobilisation of the contras."

Callejas sponsored the negotiations, in which Nicaraguan Cardinal Miguel Obando Y Bravo, Archbishop of Managua, also participated.

"In our camps in Yamas there are few weapons and few combatants left and before the end of the week they will be in Nicaragua," Sovalbarro said.

Border into Nicaragua.

Contra leaders have said that as few as 2,000 of their estimated 12,000 combatants remain in Honduran camps, with many having crossed the border in recent weeks.

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U.S. Navy deploys Trident 2 missile aboard sub

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The navy's newest and deadliest missile — the Trident 2 — has passed all its tests and has been deployed aboard the submarine USS Tennessee, the navy announced.

The Trident 2 is considered by experts to be the most accurate ballistic missile in the U.S. arsenal.

The USS Tennessee will carry 24 of the missiles. Each missile can fire 12 nuclear warheads to individual targets more than 7,400 kilometres away.

On Thursday, the programme formally achieved what is called the initial operational capability. That marks the end of its land-based and submarine-based flight tests, as well as all readiness checks for missiles, crew and equipment aboard the Tennessee.

That means, said navy spokesman Cmdr. Craig Quigley, "that

it is declared ready for use."

The programme encountered problems last year after two of the first three submarine-launched missiles self-destructed. The programme was declared on track in January after a \$125-million fix of the missile's nozzle system.

The programme cost \$35 billion to date.

It "was delivered two years early and was 12 per cent below the budget originally provided," the navy said in a statement.

The Washington Post reported Thursday that Cheney's "guidance" for the 1992-1997 defence plan ordered military leaders to prepare for cuts in nuclear spending at a time when he has warned about Soviet nuclear modernisation.

Williams declined to discuss numbers, but said overall cuts in nuclear programmes would not necessarily mean cancellation of the controversial B-2 bomber or planes or mount the 10-warhead

"midgetman" missile.

"As a general matter, I can tell you that defence spending overall is going to be declining by about two per cent a year — and strategic spending is part of that," he said.

Cheney, meanwhile, is deciding whether to proceed with a number of high-cost aircraft programmes, including the B-2 bomber.

The air force has been pressuring Congress for 132 of the radar-evading planes at an expected \$30 million each.

The secretary will decide whether to go ahead with the programmes as planned, cancel them, reduce them or delay development. The other programmes being reassessed for the five-year plan are the C-17 transport plane, the air force advanced tactical fighter (ATF), the navy advanced tactical aircraft (ATA) and the army light helicopter (LHX) programme.

Campaigning will start in earnest this weekend with rallies to mark 100 days since the overthrow and execution of Stalinist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

Though the outcome of May 20 voting for a president, assembly and senate is wide open, the ruling National Salvation Front (NSF) appears the early frontrunner in a huge field.

Opposition leaders charged in interviews this week that victory for the movement that assumed power after the December 22 revolution would amount to a takeover by ex-Communists.

"The revolution was a spontaneous popular movement but it was immediately confiscated by the (Communist) Party mechanism," said Social Democratic leader Sergiu Cunescu.

Front leader and interim President Ion Iliescu, a probable presidential candidate, dismisses such charges as based on "artificially-fuelled suspicions" which could turn into a witch hunt.

But with memories still fresh of the revolution, in which at least 689 and possibly more than 1,000 people were killed, the issue of covert Communist power appears vital to many voters.

As the campaign tempo quickens, the opposition will use it to attack Iliescu, a former Communist official sidelined by Ceausescu for dissent.

"Ios Iliescu" (down with Iliescu) has joined "Ios Communism" as a slogan at some demonstrations.

"This revolution was stolen. It was hijacked by the nomenklatura (party elite)," said a National Liberal Party official.

"The front is nothing but the

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Belgian parliament ends ban on abortions

BRUSSELS (AP) — In a historic vote ending a 123-year ban, the parliament Thursday approved abortion during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy if the woman is deemed to be in distress. The House of Representatives of this overwhelmingly Catholic nation voted 126 to 69, with 12 abstentions, to do away with an 1867 law that made abortion a criminal offence. The law, although spottily enforced in recent years, provided for prison terms of up to 5 years for offenders. Last November, the senate approved the bill which must now be signed into law by King Baudouin. Thursday's vote leaves Ireland as the only European Community nation with a total ban on abortions.

Thatcher, I'm no great diplomat

CAMBRIDGE, England (AP) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, whose combative style often embroils her in disputes with fellow leaders, admits she sometimes lacks the diplomatic touch, but she's glad about it. "I'm not always the world's greatest diplomat and thank goodness for that. There are more than enough of them," she told an Anglo-German banquet in Cambridge Thursday night. Then, several diplomats being present, she added hastily. "And very good they are. They pick up all our mistakes and say what they thought we meant to say but didn't quite."

S. Korea, Romania open formal ties

SEOUL (AP) — South Korea and Romania signed a protocol Friday opening formal diplomatic relations between the two countries. The protocol was signed by visiting Romanian Deputy Foreign Minister Mircea Mitran and South Korean Foreign Minister Choi Ho-Joong. The signing advanced South Korea's diplomatic thrust into Eastern Europe, which has maintained close relations with Seoul's arch-enemy, Communist North Korea.

U.N. team arrives in Phnom Penh

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — A United Nations team has arrived in Cambodia to examine ways to overcome technical obstacles to the proposed U.N. participation in a future peace

settlement, a U.N. official said Friday. The 10-man team led by Winston Prattley, a New Zealander, left Thursday from Bangkok for the mission that is to last about 10 days, said the official.

New Sri Lankan cabinet named

COLOMBO (AP) — President Ranasinghe Premadasa named a new cabinet Friday, removing a political rival who supported India's military occupation of the island-nation. Premadasa reappointed Prime Minister Dingiri Bandara Wijetunga to his post and named a new foreign minister, Harold Herath. A Premadasa rival, Minister for Plantation Industries Gamini Dissanayake, was dropped from the cabinet, according to a communiqué issued by the presidential secretariat. Dissanayake, 48, was a close ally of former President Junius R. Jayewardene and an architect of the accord with New Delhi that led to India's 30-month military occupation of Sri Lanka.

British royal baby named Eugenie

LONDON (AP) — The Duke and Duchess of York have named their week-old daughter Princess Eugenie Victoria Helena, Buckingham Palace announced Friday. The baby's name was announced shortly after the royal couple emerged from Portland Hospital with the new princess, wrapped in a white blanket and sleeping quietly through the cheers of the crowd and the click of hundreds of cameras. Princess Eugenie, as she will be called, is the second daughter of the duke and duchess and the sixth grandchild of Queen Elizabeth II. Princess Eugenie will be sixth in line to the throne, behind her sister Princess Beatrice who will be 2 years old on Aug. 8.

U.S. law leads to bring discrimination — GAO

WASHINGTON (AP) — A 4-year-old law designed to curb illegal immigration has led to widespread hiring discrimination based on national origins, the General Accounting Office (GAO) has reported. "GAO believes many employers discriminated because the law's verification system does not provide a simple or reliable method to verify job applicants' eligibility to work," said the report from the congressional agency. The report triggered calls from Congress members for repeal of civil and criminal penalties, or "sanctions," under the law for employers who hire illegal aliens.

Top Kashmiri militant killed

SRINAGAR, India (Agencies)

— One of Indian-ruled Kashmir's top secessionist militants was shot dead in a clash with troops Friday and at least four passers-by were killed in crossfire, police said.

The said Ashfaq Majid Wani, 26, was killed in central Srinagar when his own grenade exploded in his hand as he fell after being struck by two bullets.

Wani was one of the four area commanders of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), one of the leading groups fighting for an independent Kashmir or to join Muslim Pakistan.

The rise in bloodshed follows the escape of 12 JKLF men from Srinagar's maximum security jail Wednesday. The jail superintendent and two senior aides were fired for negligence.

The rest of the staff at the jail, which was guarded by about 300 paramilitary troops, were being questioned over suspicions that the escapers must have had inside help.

More than 200 people have been killed in Jammu and Kashmir, India's only Muslim-majority state, since the secessionist campaign burst into major violence in mid-January.

The gunfight in which Wani was killed occurred during a three-hour break in a curfew imposed almost constantly on the Kashmir Valley, where support for the campaign is at its strongest.

They said two passers-by were killed outright in the crossfire and two more died later in hospital.

At least 16 more and two para-military troopers were wounded, they said.

Meanwhile, militant groups and supporting organisations threatened to defy the curfew unless it was lifted for Friday prayers.

On Thursday night many people entered mosques in defiance of the curfew and broadcast calls throughout the night over loudspeakers for a crusade against India.

Meanwhile, in New Delhi, the Congress Party of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi suffered the latest in a string of reverses Thursday when it lost its majority in the upper house of parliament.

United News of India said the Congress Party won 11 of the 70 seats for which elections were held Thursday.

The party is now left with 112 members in the 245-strong Rajya Sabha, or House of the Nation. Previously, it held 136 seats.

The Congress, however, remains the single largest group in the House.

One-third of the Rajya Sabha seats fall vacant every two years and are filled by votes from members of state legislatures. The house does not have the power to reverse financial bills passed by the decision-taking lower house, the Lok Sabha, but otherwise the two houses have equal status.

COLUMN

Judges of best-dressed laud Gorbatchev

NEW YORK (R) — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev has received a special commendation for liberating the dress sense of the Soviet man, the influential International Best Dressed poll said.

Gorbachev was named for "opening the door to fashion as a means of self-esteem and self-expression to the men of the Eastern Bloc nations after 40 years of enforced anonymity," according to a release from Eleanor Lambert, who created the poll 50 years ago.

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